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December 10, 2013

VIA ELECTRONIC AND U.S. MAIL

Ms. Caroline Kwan
Remedial Project Manager
Special Projects Branch
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway, 20th Floor
New York, New York 10007-1866

Re: Progress Report No. 29 – November 2013
Newtown Creek Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

Dear Ms. Kwan:

Anchor QEA is submitting this monthly progress report for the Newtown Creek Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) on behalf of the Newtown Creek Group (NCG) Respondents to the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (Settlement Agreement or AOC). As set forth in Section 42 of said Settlement Agreement, this progress report is divided into the following areas:

1. Actions taken to comply with the Settlement Agreement during the previous month
2. Results of sampling and tests and all other data received by Respondents to the Settlement Agreement during the previous month
3. Problems encountered and anticipated problems, actual or anticipated delays, and solutions developed and implemented to address actual or anticipated problems or delays
4. Work planned for the next 2 months with schedules relating to the overall project schedule for RI/FS completion

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1. Actions Taken to Comply with Settlement Agreement during Previous Month

- Additional replies to the City of New York responses on the request for information needed to complete the draft *Phase 2 Remedial Investigation Work Plan* (Phase 2 RI Work Plan) were provided by the NCG to USEPA on November 1.
- A request for a 90-day extension to the Phase 2 RI Work Plan submittal date was made to USEPA on November 12.
- The scheduled USEPA update meeting and Modeling Workshop No. 3 were held in New York City on November 14. Items discussed during the USEPA update meeting included: 1) Phase 2 RI Work Plan status; 2) *Sources Sampling Approach Memorandum – Addendum* (SSAM Addendum) status; and 3) City of New York NC-50 maintenance dredging project update. Updates on the point source, hydrodynamic, and sediment transport models were discussed during the modeling workshop.
- A request for 2-month extensions to the Modeling Workshop No. 4 date (from mid-February to mid-April) and the *Preliminary Modeling Results Memorandum* submittal date (from mid-April to mid-June) was made to USEPA on November 25. USEPA approved this extension request via e-mail on December 5.
- A request for information from the NCG Respondents was provided by USEPA (on behalf of the City of New York) on November 25.
- Additional comments on the *Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment Problem Formulation* (BERA PF) and Endpoint Table (BERA PF Table 7-1) were provided by USEPA on November 26.
- The following activities continued in November (including weekly, multi-day teleconference meetings with the Technical Committee):
 - Hydrodynamic and sediment transport model development
 - Groundwater and point sources evaluations
 - Draft SSAM Addendum development
 - Draft BERA PF response to comments
 - Draft Phase 2 RI Work Plan development

2. *Results of Sampling and Tests and Other Data Received by NCG Respondents during Previous Month*

- None

3. *Encountered and Anticipated Problems and/or Delays and Solutions Developed and Implemented to Address Them*

- None.

4. *Work Planned for the Next 2 Months with Schedules Relating to the Overall Project Schedule for RI/FS Completion*

- A project update meeting with USEPA is scheduled for December 12.
- The draft SSAM Addendum, draft BERA PF, and draft Phase 2 RI Work Plan are planned for submission to USEPA.

If you have any questions regarding this progress report, please do not hesitate to contact me at (201) 571-0912 (e-mail: jquadrini@anchorqea.com).

Sincerely,



Jim Quadrini, P.E., BCCE
Anchor QEA, LLC

cc: Michael Mintzer, USEPA Region 2 Assistant Regional Counsel
Ian Beilby, NYSDEC, Division of Environmental Remediation
W. David Bridgers, Common Counsel for Newtown Creek Group Respondents
Edward Leonard, CDM Smith